

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Glenn McGall, Martin Goldberg, Thomas B. Ryder and Steve Woodman
Application No.: 09/862,571 Group Art Unit: 1631
Filed: May 21, 2001 Examiner: Borin, Michael L.
Confirmation No.: 9482

For: METHODS FOR REDUCING NON-SPECIFIC BINDING TO AN
OLIGONUCLEOTIDE ARRAY



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202	
on <u>12-9-02</u>	<u>M. Lisa Bertolino</u>
Date	Signature
<u>M. Lisa Bertolino</u>	
Typed or printed name of person signing certificate	

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

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Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated November 7, 2002, the claim of Group I (Claim 3), drawn to a method of reducing non-specific binding of a target molecule to oligonucleotides on a surface of a solid support, is elected for prosecution. The Examiner has indicated that Claims 1, 2, 6-9 and 12 are linking claims for Groups I-III (Claims 3, 4 and 5) and will consider these claims along with the claim of the elected group. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing application or take such other appropriate action as deemed necessary to protect the non-elected inventions. Applicants do not hereby abandon or waive any rights in the non-elected inventions.

Responsive to the requirement for an election of species for searching purposes, Applicants hereby elect photolabile protecting groups as the species in step (b) of Claim 1. Claims readable on the elected species are 1-3, 6, 7, 9 and 12.

Further responsive to the requirement for an election of species for searching purposes, Applicants hereby elect compounds represented by Formula II as the species in step 2) of Claims 6 and 9. Claims readable on the elected species are 1-3 and 6-9.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the IDS is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

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Dated: Dec. 9, 2002